Date: November 17, 2006



## E UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Laurie Eskola

Application No.: 10/528,769

Filed: April 19, 2005

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR EXCLUDING ENTRY OF DEBRIS INTO AN OUTER SEAL OF A SHAFT PASSING THROUGH THE HULL OF A MARITIME VESSEL

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Group Art Unit: 3617

Examiner: EDWIN L. SWINEHART

Confirmation No.: 4689

## AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated August 18, 2006 (Paper No. 20060817). Please amend the above-noted application as follows: